Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The Diwan went to Madras to attend the meeting of the South Indian Railway Advisory Committee.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* The object of my question is to draw the attention of the Government regarding the advisability of nominating a non-official to the Committee. The Diwan is very very busy. I don't know whether he will be able to attend.....

Mr. President: I would remind the Hon'ble Member that this is question time.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Anyhow I will move a resolution on the subject.

Mr. MAMAN CHOHAN—CHARGES AGAINST AND RESULT OF INQUIRY

5. Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what was the gravamen of the charge for which Mr. Maman Chohan was suspended;

(*b*) was a thorough enquiry made;

(*c*) what was the result of the enquiry;

(*d*) how was the amount of pension now decided to be given him arrived at?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) (1) Leaving jurisdiction without permission. (2) Irregularities committed while he was the Protector.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Mr. Chohan was found to have committed the irregularities.

(*d*) By adding to his service five years in view of the fact that he was recruited from the Bar and by calculating compassionate allowance on the basis that he has put in more than 14 years' service (including the 5 years referred to above).

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural):* May I know the nature of the irregularities referred to in sub-division (*a*)?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The irregularities are delays in remittance, delays in payment to contractors and to a certain extent, misappropriation too.

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Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Was not there a charge of misappropriation?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ : ആ കുറ്റത്തിന്നല്ലെ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ഡിഗ്രേഡ് ചെയ്തതു?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* For most of these except one.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Was this sufficient punishment for a person who was entrusted with the preservation of peace and good conduct of the malefactors, malcontents, miscreants and others of that, ilk?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The substantial punishment was his removal from service. The only thing is that the Government, out of mercy, gave him pension.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether he has committed any irregularity after he was made Sub-Magistrate?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* There was one.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* What was it?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Going and building a *Bhajana Madam.*

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, I shall explain. For years it was reported that the construction of the building was over and the money was paid. It was found out in 1116 that the building was put up only that year. The money was received towards the end of 1112 though the building was put up only in 1116.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know how he got access to the place?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The person who did it was also taken to task. He is the Parvathiam.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether there is any officer who has control over the place where the building was constructed?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Protector.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether the Protector has given information that the building was being put up?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The building was hurriedly put up. When he visited the place he found it out and submitted a report.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is it stated in the report of a Committee which was appointed by the Advisory Committee and which visited the colonies that the building was in existence?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* There was reference of a *Bhajana Madam* existing in the very same colony where now it is stated that there was no *Bhajana Madham* and that it was subsequently constructed. Even before the alleged construction is supposed to have been made by Mr. Chohan there is reference in the report of the Committee which toured all the colonies of the State that there was a *Bhajana Madam* in that locality. How can this present contention be now raised that he constructed it afterwards?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Exhaustive enquiries were made by no less a person than the Diwan Peishkar and also by other government officials who have taken statements of the inmates of the place and the Government came to this conclusion. I may assure the House that the fact is absolutely true.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know how this irregularity happened to escape the notice of the Government?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* When the person to whom it is entrusted himself is guilty, how can the Government know?

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Are there not normal tests by which Government can come across these misappropriations?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It was only when another officer was appointed that this was found out.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* May I know who check-measured that work?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Protector himself. Only lately, we have changed the rules.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know whether there is anybody to supervise the activities of the Protector?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* So far as accounts are concerned, several irregularities came to light and the Protector took a very long time to explain them, and if I remember aright, it was I myself who brought it

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most prominently to the notice of the Government—the absence of the *Bhajana Madam* and the absence of vouchers.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* There is nobody to supervise the work of the Protector.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* We rely upon the Head of Department to carry on. It is not a subordinate officer to whom these works are entrusted.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* For four years the Government was not aware of this fact?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development:)*: Sir, a well was supposed to have been dug up and money was paid and some years after it was found out that the well was not dug up.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* What exactly was the point in enquiring into the conduct of Mr. Chohan when he was the Protector, while he was the Sub-Magistrate?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No such enquiry was made. The present Protector brought this to our notice. The Comptroller also brought this to our notice. Then, of course, the Government had to take notice of it.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know when the present Protector reported about the conduct of the late Protector?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I cannot say exactly the date. I want notice.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know whether it was a fact that the present Protector, as soon as he was appointed, visited all the colonies?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* He could not visit. There are very many colonies in distant places and it took nearly 2½ months for the committee appointed by this Council to go around.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അന്ന ഈ കമ്മിറ്റി ഈ കോളണിയും വിസിറ്റ് ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ലെ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I think they have visited almost all the colonies.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it a fact that the Advisory Committee reported that this building was in existence when they visited the locality?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It will be very difficult if questions are sprung like that. In the first place, it

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is besides the point. In the second place, if you want the information unless you give me notice, how can I say now?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* May I know whether the Government is sure that all the buildings for which they paid are now in existence?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Nobody can give a definite answer.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warrier *(Cheruthuruthi):* May I know whether the Government think it necessary to enquire further into the matter to see whether there has been such delinquencies in other cases?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Head of Department has enquired, and as soon as this was brought to his notice, he reported.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* May I know whether they are further proceeding with the matter to see whether there are other similar cases?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Head of Department will enquire and bring to the notice of the Government if there are any such instances.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* What was done with the Parvathiam?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* He has been suspended for six months.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know who builds these buildings?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Contractors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL QUESTIONS—ANSWERING OF—PREFERENCE TO TRANSFERRED SUBJECTS

6. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of questions received and answered in the years 1114, 1115 and 1116, respectively ;

(*b*) the number of questions received and answered in the same years pertaining to the transferred subjects ;

(c) the number of questions received and answered in the same year pertaining to the reserved subjects ?

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